

~~Garnett~~ HAMILTON, (J. B.)



REMARKS

MADE AT THE

Medical Society of the District of Columbia

ON THE

DEATH OF DR. A. Y. P. GARNETT, ✓

BY JOHN B. HAMILTON.

A giant among medical workers has fallen; a dauntless soul has left our midst. A gentleman, without fear and without reproach; a physician with a spotless record; a practitioner most able; a consultant, clever, courteous, and conscientious; a scholar of high repute; a medical officer skilled in the exigencies of military and naval warfare; a man of the utmost energy; a devoted friend. All these attributes were possessed by our late colleague, the fact of whose future absence from our meetings falls on more than one here to-night as a personal loss.

Many of us had been accustomed to look for sympathy, support, and counsel to our departed colleague, whose wide knowledge of the world, great learning, and vast experience made it a pleasure to be associated with him.

Dr. Garnett, leaving us at the age of sixty-eight, has left us the record of a life singularly complete in all that makes a gentleman and high-class professional man.

Having graduated with honor, he entered the United States Navy, and in due course was promoted to the rank of Passed Assistant Surgeon. It was at this time that he made the voyage round Cape Horn and visited the Chilian

coast. He wrote an interesting account of some cases observed in the service, which was published in the *American Journal of Medical Sciences*. He was ordered to Washington, and after marriage resigned and settled in this Capital.

He was engaged in active practice when the War of the Rebellion came. Who shall censure him now, that he followed the fortunes of his State, rather than those of the old flag? Dr. Garnett always acted true to his convictions of right, as the needle to the pole. Others might scold, sulk and backbite if they wished and remain under the protection of the flag while in enmity to its defenders; but not he! Business, property, peace and comfort were exchanged for the hardships of the camp, the battlefield and the retreat, because his convictions of the righteousness of the Southern cause forced him into the front.

Brave, honest, and true Doctor Garnett! No Northern soldier but honors his hatred of hypocrisy and his courage.

The war ended, his antagonisms died, and his practice was resumed with success and the reward which none envied, and all approved.

He has lived as a gentleman and physician should live, and he has gone full of years, and covered with honors; but while our tears mingle with those of his immediate family, let us reflect with some satisfaction that we loved him while he lived, and honored him while he was yet in the flesh, and that he was spared the bitterness, so often accorded our great men, of meeting only envy, hatred, and detraction during life. And so, while our colleague has passed beyond our ken to the realms of the unknown shore, the comforting thought comes to us that, while with us, he knew of our devotion and repaid us with his esteem.

